

**Regional Service Council Minutes
Region # 9**

Meeting Date: 8/24/07

Meeting Location: Hendricks County Dept. of Child Services
6781 E US Hwy. 36, Avon, IN 46123

Council Members Present:

Kandi Killin - Director, Boone County CASA/GAL, Steve Vaughn - Director, Montgomery County DCS, Jana Minks - Montgomery County DCS, Tim Miller - Director, Morgan County DCS, Harmony Gist - Morgan County DCS, Barbara South - Director, Putnam County DCS, and Char Burkett-Sims - DCS , Region 9 Regional Manager

Guests Present:

Andrea Goodwin - Hendricks County DCS, Kamilla Aeschliman - Boone County DCS, Patti Harmless - Putnam County Youth Development and Community Youth Services Bureau, Michael Frye - Midwest Center for Youth and Families, David Eilar - Wernle Children's Home, Carmen Young - Midwest Center for Youth and Families

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM

Visit to Tara Center Update:

- All who went on the tour of the facility were very impressed with the program. The only concern identified is that they do not accept Medicaid and the cost is \$14,000.
- Things to consider
 - The center indicated a willingness to work with us on funding and possibly providing services at no cost. They are open to negotiation.
 - We are paying more in the long run if we don't get to the heart of the problem. Tara may provide a better treatment option for some.
 - A IV-E Waiver slot could pay up to \$9,000

Practice Indicators:

Placement results were reviewed.

Placement Type Average for Region 9 for the period of May 2007 - July 2007 is as follows:

Own Home:	33.03%
Relative:	10.79%
Foster Care:	44.11%
Residential:	8.06%

Practice Reform changes would suggest that we could expect to see increases in the number of child placements the child's own home with relatives.

The absence of repeat maltreatment was also reviewed.

The average rate for the Region for the period of May through July is 87.23%.
The target for this measure is 90%

Practice Reform Training Update:

- By the end of October 2007, all staff will be trained in the core skills of Teaming, Engaging, Assessing, Planning and Intervening.
- Training for new Facilitators continues as well.
- Region 9 is piloting the use of Federal Parent Locator Services to assist in the location of absent parents.

IV-B Funding Transfer Requests:

Boone County requested the transfer of \$3,517.14 from Behavior Corp to Families United for from funding year 06-07 and transfer \$1500.00 for funding year 08. The request comes following notice that Behavior Corp no longer wishes to contract.

All members in attendance approved the request but there was not a quorum at his meeting. Kamilla will seek approval from at least one other council member. Approval is pending the receipt of additional votes.

Kamilla received a vote from Commissioner Sally Berish (Judge David's Proxy vote)

Hendricks County requested to redistribute funds under the contract with Family Works from home based case work to implement home based therapy with Family Works through IV-B.

All members in attendance approved the request but there was not a quorum at his meeting. Andrea will secure approval from two other council members. Approval is pending the receipt of additional votes.

Andrea received votes from Kandi Killin and Steve Vaughn.

General Discussion:

Child Advocacy Center Update

Andrea met with Domestic Violence Coordinator from Sheltering Wings, Maria Larrisson and spoke about the plan of getting the Advocacy Center started. Andrea has received word that the Finding Words training is only going to be funded for one training session. Many calls are being received for the Finding Words Training. Andrea is exploring how to coordinate this.

received a vote from Commissioner Sally Berish (Judge David's Proxy vote)

Community Partners for Child Safety

Mark Fairchild was not present.

Andrea Goodwin went over the report provided during the last Community Partners meeting. Referrals continue to come in and have additional staff have been hired. Children's Bureau is now backing off of marketing and advertising activities due to the overwhelming amount of referrals.

Wernle Children's Home

David Eilar, Referral Specialist gave a presentation regarding the facility. Wernle is looking to expand their capacity. They can house up to 72 children. They hope to expand the facility within 1-2 years. They are also looking to add females to the program

Families are encouraged to visit. There are accommodations for family visitation provided with at cost to the parent. The families can stay and are encouraged to stay as long as needed.

Wernle also provides transportation or gas vouchers for families experiencing financial hardship. Wernle also provides health care and provide tutoring on campus. Most students attend school at Richmond Community School. Therapy begins as soon as the child arrives at the facility. Transitional Living and Independent Living programs are available.

Meeting Dates

The date of the meetings will continue to be scheduled for 1:30 PM on the 4th Friday of each month at the Hendricks County DCS Office

Next Meeting:

Date: 9.28.07

Location: Hendricks County DCS Office

Time: 1:30 PM

Meeting concluded at 10:14 AM